



PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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October 29, 2015

To: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

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**EXTENSION REQUEST - SUPPORTING OUR RELATIVE CAREGIVERS AND
SUPPLEMENTAL BOARD MOTION ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

On June 9, 2015, a motion by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl directed the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) in consultation with the Interim Chief Executive Officer, the Office of Child Protection, and the Departments of Public Social Services (DPSS) and Community and Senior Services (CSS), to report back on all of the following in time for inclusion in the FY 2015-16 Supplemental Changes to the Budget:

1. DCFS shall report back on the programs and services (including DPSS and CSS programs) provided to relative caregivers, as well as an analysis of the gaps where additional support is needed from both countywide and regional perspectives.
2. Using the solicitation process for the Prevention Initiative Demonstration Project as a model, DCFS shall issue a Request for Information to partner with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to develop Kinship support programs, and allocate up to \$1.25M annually from its existing budget to contract with qualified CBOs.
3. The volume and type of calls received by the DCFS Ombudsman in calendar year 2014.
4. The feasibility of establishing a 24/7 Caregiver Call Center within its existing budget to support the needs of relative and foster caregivers or birth parents.

On September 29, 2015, a supplemental motion by Supervisor Kuehl directed DCFS to report back in 30 days and included the following:

5. Ensure all social workers, particularly those in the Kinship Support Division, and relative caregivers are informed of the range of services provided by DCFS (including Kinship Support Centers), CSS, DPSS (including the Approved Relative Caregiver Program) to relative caregivers and report back with a plan to disseminate the information to social workers and caregivers and a timeline for completion of the plan and outreach efforts.

DCFS has determined that additional time is needed to submit a response. Therefore, we request an extension until November 17, 2015 to complete this report.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Liaison, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:DI:RRS
BD:WC:lj

c: Chief Executive Officer
Interim County Counsel
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Department of Public Social Services
Community and Senior Services